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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/780,433  
Applicant: Lee A. Smith, et al.  
Filed: February 17, 2004  
TC/AU: 3673  
Examiner: LAGMAN, Frederick Lyndon  
  
Docket No.: ERPP-0100US  
Cust. No.: 31,782

Confirmation No.: 1561

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on October 1, 2004

Name of Depositor: Roger N. Chauza

Signature: [Signature]

Date of Signature: OCT. 1, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

This communication is responsive to the first Office Action dated July 2, 2004 for the above-referenced file. Please amend the Claims as set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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